

# Community Appearance Commission

## Minutes

March 2, 2005

The regular meeting of the Salisbury Community Appearance Commission was called to order on Wednesday, March 2, 2005, at 4:10 p.m. by Chairman Bruce Wilson, in the Council Chamber, 217 South Main Street, Salisbury, North Carolina. The following members were present and absent:

Present: Cindee Bridges, Greta Connor, James Donaldson, Judy Kandl, Michael Lippard, Barbara Perry, Bill Safrit, Johnny Safrit, Preston Sale, and Bruce Wilson

Absent: Suzette Davis

Staff: Lynn Raker and Diana Moghrabi

Mr. Bruce Wilson, Chair, opened the meeting with the approval of the February minutes and the February financial report.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Art in Public Places

*Angel Project.* Bruce Wilson led a discussion about Salisbury's Angel Project. It was the consensus that CAC would like to continue making a donation to the project, but could not accept the responsibility of the project. The mosaic project is a priority for CAC at this time.

*HAT (History and Art Trail).* HAT Guidelines were sent to members of CAC, for their review, in their agenda packets. The guidelines were "digested" by the HAT committee for the past year and a half; the committee has covered as many bases as possible. The contract is legally acceptable.

The only item in the guidelines causing concern was the following:

#### **g) Procedures**

- 1. Conditions: A work of art may be considered for de-acquisition for one or more of the following reasons: the work of art has received documented and consistent adverse public reaction from a measurably large number of individuals and/or organizations over a period of 10 or more years; de-acquisition has been requested for serious cause by the responsible party that displays the work; the site has become inappropriate; for example, it is no longer publicly accessible, or the physical setting is to be destroyed; the work is fraudulent or not authentic; the work possesses faults*

*of design or workmanship; the work causes excessive or unreasonable maintenance; the work is damaged irreparably, or to an extent where repair is unreasonable or impracticable; the work represents a physical threat to public safety; or de-acquisition has been requested in writing by the artist, for serious cause.*

It was explained that 10 years would serve as a kind of “cooling off” time to check the public sentiment. The term “staff” is generic for a public art staff person (public employee). A public art committee would be allowed to change the guidelines if it became necessary.

One way of raising money for public art is to charge a fee that would be a percentage of new construction.

A motion was made by Preston Sale to approve the guidelines for public art. Bill Safrit seconded the motion with all members voting AYE. The guidelines will be taken to City Council.

The Proctor Foundation awarded a grant to the History and Art Trail.

*Gateway.* One grant has been received from the B J Robertson Foundation for the Gateway Streetscape enhancement project near the Interstate. This is a different project. The new request is for a significant art installation at the new Innes Street Railroad Bridge area. Staff will apply to the Blanche and Julian Robertson Foundation for a grant for this project.

## **Neighborhoods & Education Committee**

- *Spring Spruce-Up. April 25-29* The inserts for the utility bills have been printed and delivered to the City’s Planning Department.

There will be a neighborhood leadership meeting on April 13 from 4-5 p.m. at One Water Street. The committee will meet on March 9 at 3:00 p.m. in the first floor conference room to prepare for this meeting. Members of the committee are: James Donaldson, Barbara Perry, Preston Sale, Suzette Davis, Cindee Bridges, and Greta Connor.

- *Jersey City.* James would like an update on the sidewalks for Jersey City. Staff is working on a set of architectural guidelines. These are recommendations based on the existing property that will apply to any infill construction. It will not be a historic district because there are not enough structures to justify it as such.
- *Welcome to Salisbury sign, North Long Street.*
  - This is a State road.
  - The sign is metal and unattractive.
  - The location of the sign should be reconsidered.
  - There are concerns about this entrance to Salisbury having many problems.

It was suggested that some of the Innes Street Grant money (or other grant money) can be directed to this area to improve this entrance to Salisbury.

Lynn will check to see if there is a sign in storage. Nearly 20 years ago some of the welcome signs were installed by the CAC. A systematic effort to replace signs could be initiated. Landscaping around existing welcome signs could use sprucing up. This would be a good service project.

## **Landscaping**

- *Tree Ordinance.* Johnny Safrit clarified that although the tree-pruning ordinance is good; there is room for improvement in the details.
- On March 1, "Council to consider a RESOLUTION of Legislative Intent authorizing a special committee to review and update the Salisbury Tree Ordinance."
- Trees have been planted at the intersection of Elm and Lincolnton Road.

## **Municipal Service District (MSD) and Innes Street Improvement Grants (ISG)**

Phone calls have been made to confirm progress of projects with those receiving money.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Bruce Wilson followed up on the activities of First United Methodist Church and their request to raze two historic buildings. The church has heard from Historic Preservation, Historic Salisbury Foundation, and Downtown Salisbury, Inc., to name a few, about the community's desire to save the buildings.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Bruce Wilson would like the CAC to help Livingstone College with the refurbishing of their Poets and Dreamers Garden. A packet was distributed to members of CAC. Johnny Safrit said he had done some conceptual plans for the Livingstone Board of Trustees for the project. It would be good if a garden club, Master Gardeners, or other organization could be involved. Bruce felt this could be a destination point on the History and Art Trail. Livingstone really needs help raising some money for the project.

*Nominations* have been sent to City Council for the CAC. The list includes: Sarah Robinson, Lori McMahon, Sandra Pfaff, Chad Morgan. Chad Morgan did not submit a resume.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

- There will be a street festival June 18 on Easy Street. It is sponsored by the Rowan Arts Council.
- The CAC will be in transition next month with three members leaving and the new members coming on. Everyone's hard work is greatly appreciated and each member who is rotating off the CAC will be missed.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

dm